## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re application of           | )                                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Keiichi SUGIMOTO               | ) Atty. Docket No.: <b>IKEDA0034</b> |
| Serial No. (Not Yet Assigned)  | ) Group Art Unit:                    |
| Filed: Herewith                | )                                    |
|                                | ) Examiner:                          |
| For: IMAGE BINARIZATION METHOD | )                                    |
| AND BINARY IMAGE CREATION      | )                                    |
| METHOD                         | ) Date: September 28, 2001           |

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**BOX: PATENT APPLICATION** 

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement with regard to the above-identified application. Copies of each of the documents listed in the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are attached.

Document A relates to a method and apparatus for image processing for a camera system. Document B relates to a method and device for image processing. Document C relates to an image processor. Document D relates to a method for deciding threshold value for binarization. Document E relates to a method and apparatus for surface defect inspection. Their relevance is believed to be clear from English-language Abstract attached to each, as well as from the discussions at pages 1 and 2 of the present specification. Accordingly, no further comment in regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that a copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A, initialed by the Examiner to indicate that the documents have been considered, be returned to the applicants.

It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but if a fee should be required, authorization is hereby given to deduct from deposit account No. <u>50-1281</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC

Joerg-Uwe Szipl Reg. No. 31,799

GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC Suite PH-1 2300 Ninth Street, South Arlington, VA 22204

Telephone: (703) 979-5700 Facsimile: (703) 979-7429 Customer No.: 24203

PTO/SB/17 (11-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032
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## FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

| TOTAL | <b>AMOUNT</b> | OF PAYME | €NT |
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| (\$) 395.00 |
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| Complete if Known                     |           |   |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---|--|--|
| Application Number                    | 7         | 0 |  |  |
| Filing Date                           |           |   |  |  |
| First Named Inventor Keiichi SUGIMOTO |           |   |  |  |
| Examiner Name                         |           | F |  |  |
| Group Art Unit                        |           |   |  |  |
| Attorney Docket No. IKEDA0034         |           |   |  |  |
|                                       | IKEDA0034 |   |  |  |

| METHOD OF PAYMENT  | FEE CALCULATION (continued)  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overnay ments to: | 3. ADDITIONAL FEES   |  |  |  |  |
| indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:  Deposit  | Large Small  |  |  |  |  |
| Account 50-1281  | Entity Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Pescription Fee Paid                                   |  |  |  |  |
| Deposit  | Code (\$) Code (\$)  |  |  |  |  |
| Account GRIFFIN & SZIPL, P.C.  | 105 130 205 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath                                       |  |  |  |  |
| X Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17                                      | 127 50 227 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet                     |  |  |  |  |
| X Applicant claims small entity status.  | 139 130 139 130 Non-English specification  |  |  |  |  |
| See 37 CFR 1.27  | 147 2,520 147 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination                      |  |  |  |  |
| 2. X Payment Enclosed:   | 112 920* 112 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to                                 |  |  |  |  |
| X Check Credit card Money Other  | Examiner action  113 1,840* 113 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after               |  |  |  |  |
| FEE CALCULATION  | Examiner action  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. BASIC FILING FEE  | 115 110 215 55 Extension for reply within first month                                    |  |  |  |  |
| Large Entity Small Entity  | 116 390 216 195 Extension for reply within second month                                  |  |  |  |  |
| Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Code (\$) Code (\$) Fee Paid   | 117 890 217 445 Extension for reply within third month                                   |  |  |  |  |
| 101 710 201 355 Utility filing fee 355   | 118 1,390 218 695 Extension for reply within fourth month                                |  |  |  |  |
| 106 320 206 160 Design filing fee  | 128 1,890 228 945 Extension for reply within fifth month                                 |  |  |  |  |
| 107 490 207 245 Plant filing fee   | 119 310 219 155 Notice of Appeal   |  |  |  |  |
| 108 710 208 355 Reissue filing fee   | 120 310 220 155 Filing a brief in support of an appeal                                   |  |  |  |  |
| 114 150 214 75 Provisional filing fee  | 121 270 221 135 Request for oral hearing   |  |  |  |  |
| SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 355.00   | 138 1,510 138 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding                        |  |  |  |  |
|  | 140 110 240 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES Fee from   | 141 1,240 241 620 Petition to revive - unintentional                                     |  |  |  |  |
| Extra Claims below Fee Paid  | 142 1,240 242 620 Utility issue fee (or reissue)   |  |  |  |  |
| Total Claims 14 -20** = 20 X 9 = -0-   | 143 440 243 220 Design issue fee   |  |  |  |  |
| Claims 4 - 3 - 1 \ 40 = 40   | 144 600 244 300 Plant issue fee  |  |  |  |  |
| Multiple Dependent 135 = -0-   | 122 130 122 130 Petitions to the Commissioner  |  |  |  |  |
| Loren Estituto III Esti  | 123 50 123 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)  |  |  |  |  |
| Large Entity Small Entity Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description  | 126 180 126 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt                                |  |  |  |  |
| Code (\$) Code (\$)<br>103 18 203 9 Claims in excess of 20   | 581 40 581 40 Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) |  |  |  |  |
| 102 80 202 40 Independent claims in excess of 3  | 146 710 246 355 Filing a submission after final rejection                                |  |  |  |  |
| 104 270 204 135 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid  | (37 CFR § 1.129(a))  |  |  |  |  |
| 109 80 209 40 "Reissue independent claims over original patent                                       | 149 710 249 355 For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))         |  |  |  |  |
| 110 18 210 9 "Reissue claims in excess of 20   | 179 710 279 355 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)                                  |  |  |  |  |
| and over original patent   | 169 900 169 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application                |  |  |  |  |
| SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 40.00  | Other fee (specify)  |  |  |  |  |
| **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above                                     | *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) -0-                                  |  |  |  |  |

| SUBMITTED BY      |                   |                                      |        | Complete (ii | applicable)    |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Joerg-Uwe Szipl / | Registration No.<br>(Attorney/Agent) | 31,799 | Telephone    | (703) 979-5700 |
| Signature         | X                 |                                      |        | Date         | 09-28-2001     |

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)
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| Sub | stitute for form 1449A/P | то           |                      | Comp                   | plete if Known |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------|
|     |                          |              |                      | Application Number     |                |
| IN  | FORMATIO                 | N DISC       | LOSURE               | Filing Date            |                |
| S   | STATEMENT BY APPLICANT   |              | First Named Inventor | Keiichi SUGIMOTO       |                |
|     |                          |              |                      | Group Art Unit         |                |
|     | (use as many si          | heets as ned | cessary)             | Examiner Name          |                |
| She | et 1.                    | of           | 1                    | Attorney Docket Number | IKEDA0034      |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |              |                      |                        |   |  |   |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | U.S. Paten<br>Number | Kind Code <sup>2</sup> | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |  |  |
|                       |              |                      |                        |   |  |   |  |  |
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|                       | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |          |                             |  |  |  |  |          |  |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|----------|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1             | Office   | Foreign Patent Do 3 Number4 | cument<br>Kind Code <sup>5</sup><br>(if known) | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of<br>Cited Document<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T6       |  |  |
|                       | A                        | JР       | 01-267425                   |  | KIRIN BREWERY CO.                                  | 10-25-1989   |  | AB       |  |  |
|                       | В                        | JР       | 04-175985                   |  | MAZDA MOTOR CORP.                                  | 06-23-1992   |  | AB       |  |  |
|                       | С                        | JР       | 04-255078                   |  | SEIKO EPSON CORP.                                  | 09-10-1992   |  | AB       |  |  |
|                       | D                        | JР       | 04-372073                   |  | FUJI FACOM et al.                                  | 12-25-1992   |  | AB       |  |  |
|                       | E                        | JР       | 05-180781                   |  | KAWASAKI STEEL CORP.                               | 07-23-1993   |  | AB       |  |  |
|                       |                          |          |                             |  |  |  |  |          |  |  |
|                       |                          |          |                             |  |  |  | ·_···  | <b>↓</b> |  |  |
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| Examiner  | Date       |  |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Signature | Considered |  |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.